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OCA 87-2110
27 May 1987

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Legislative Highlights and Developments
May 1987

1. Title: Federal Employees' Political Activities Act of 1987
Bill No.: HR 20
Sponsor: Rep. Clay (D., MO)
Committee: Post Office and Civil Service
Status: Introduced 7 January 1987. *Hearings scheduled 21 May and 3 June.
Impact: Would permit federal employees to participate voluntarily in certain political activities so long as they do not compromise the integrity of the merit system or the impartial functions of the government.
2. Title: Tax Reform Act of 1986--3 year recovery rule
Bill No.: HR 24 (HR 130, HR 398 et al)
(S 69, S 99)
Sponsor: Rep. Russo (D., IL)
(Sen. Tribble (R., VA)
Committee: House Ways & Means, (Senate Finance)
Status: Introduced 7 January 1987
Impact: The bill would change the Tax Reform Act of 1986 and restore the 3-year recovery rule benefit.
Outlook: Questionable because both Committees are committed to blocking changes to the Tax Reform bill, but possibly easier to deal with as a free standing single issue.
3. Title: Whistle Blowers Protection Act of 1987
Bill No.: HR 25
Sponsor: Rep. Schroeder (D., CO)
Committee: Post Office & Civil Service
Status: Introduced 6 January 1987. Hearing 10 March.

*new information

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Impact: Identical to a bill passed by the House in 99th Congress. It reaffirms government support for whistle blowers and provides protection for those who expose fraud and waste.

Outlook: Will probably pass again.

4. Title: Computer Security Act of 1987

Bill No.: HR 145

Sponsor: Rep. Glickman (D., KS) et al.

Committee: Jointly to Government Operations and Science, Space & Technology.

Status: Introduced 7 January 1987. Hearings 25, 26 Feb, 1, 10 Mar. *Mark-up completed 7 April by Govt Operations, 13 May by Science, Space and Technology.

Impact: Authorizes the National Bureau of Standards to establish a program to increase the awareness of computer security. *The bill amends a law from which the Agency is exempt, therefore we are not affected by it.

5. Title: Federal Employee Long-Term Health Act of 1987

Bill No.: HR 384

Sponsor: Rep. Oakar (D., OH)

Committee: Post Office & Civil Service

Status: Introduced 7 January 1987

Impact: Establishes a 3-year demonstration beginning in 1989 for model programs to improve effectiveness in long-term benefits, such as home nursing and adult day care.

Outlook: Similar legislation was passed in the House in the 99th Congress but the Senate failed to act on it.

6. Title: Federal Pay Management Act of 1987

Bill No.: HR 386

Sponsor: Rep. Oakar (D., OH)

Committee: Post Office & Civil Service

Status: Introduced 7 January 1987

Impact: Provides for alternative systems of compensation, expedited authority for federal agencies to increase rates of pay for certain occupations, particularly those involved in national security, who are experiencing difficulties in recruiting and retention.

*new information

7. Title: Federal Equitable Pay Practices Act of 1987
Bill No.: HR 387
Sponsor: Rep. Oakar (D., OH)
Committee: Post Office & Civil Service
Status: Introduced 7 January 1987. *Subcom
approved 19 May.
Impact: Establishes a study and a board to examine federal pay practices to determine whether there is discrimination based on gender, race or ethnicity.
8. Title: Tax Equity for Federal Retirees
Bill No.: HR 388
Sponsor: Rep. Oakar (D., OH)
Committee: Jointly to Ways & Means and Post Office & Civil Service
Status: Introduced 6 January 1987. *Subcom
approved 19 May.
Impact: See under HR 24
Outlook: Questionable. See under HR 24
9. Title: Optional Early Retirement Program for Federal Workers
Bill No.: S 42 (HR 818)
Sponsor: Sen. Roth (R., DE) Rep Bentley (R., MD)
Committee: Governmental Affairs
Status: Introduced 6 January 1987
Impact: The bill has a provision that would impose a personnel ceiling based on the number of people who retire early. This would not be acceptable and we will track this bill carefully.
Outlook: *Staff states as of mid-May that Roth intends to push his bill even though there is little support for it.
10. Title: Parental and Medical Leave Act of 1987
Bill No.: S 249 (HR 925)
Sponsor: Sen. Dodd (D., CT) (Rep. Clay (D., MO)
Committee: Governmental Affairs (Education and Labor)
Status: Introduced 6 January 1987. *House Ed Labor subcom approved bill 13 May. House POCs subcom approved 19 May.
Impact: Would liberalize leave policies for Federal employees in cases, for example, of prolonged illness of children.

*new information

11. Title: Integrity in Post Employment Act of 1987
Bill No.: S 237
Sponsor: Sen. Thurmond (R., SC)
Committee: Judiciary
Status: Introduced 6 January 1987
Impact: Prohibits Members of Congress and Government employees from attempting to influence U. S. Government policy and from representing a foreign entity for a proscribed period.

12. Title: Drug Testing for Federal Employees
Bill No.: HR 280
Sponsor: Rep. Ackerman (D., NY)
Committee: Post Office & Civil Service
Status: Introduced 6 January 1987. *POCS subcom hearing 20 May.
Impact: Places certain restrictions on drug testing by federal agencies.

13. Title: Bill to Ban Private Use of Polygraph
Bill No.: HR 1212
Sponsor: Rep. Williams (D., MT)
Committee: Education & Labor
Status: Introduced 24 February 1987, hearing 5 March 1987, *mark-up 30 April.
Impact: *Agency and NSA contractors granted exemption at 30 April mark-up.

14. *Title: Federal Employees Retirement System Technical Correction Act of 1987
Bill No.: HR 1505
Sponsor: Rep. Ford (D., MI)
Committee: Post Office & Civil Service
Status: Introduced 10 March 1987, passed House 12 March. *Passed Senate 25 March. Approved by President 7 April. PL 100-20.
Impact: Corrects unintended inequity for certain small numbers of employees covered under FERS.

15. *Title: HPSCI Intelligence Authorization Bill for FY 88
Bill No.: HR 2112
Sponsor: Rep. Stokes (D, OH)
Committee: HPSCI
Status: Reported out of HPSCI 13 May Rept 100-93

*new information

Impact: Section 6 establishes a 3-person Presidential commission to review intelligence community personnel systems. HPSCI staff indicates that we will not have to halt the progress of the Personnel Compensation Task Force.

Outlook: The SSCI does not favor this provision. This issue will have to be resolved when the Authorization bill goes to conference.

16. *Title: Special Pay and Civil Services Improvement Act of 1987
Bill No.: HR 2091 (S 987)
Sponsor: Rep Wolf (R., VA), Sen Tribble (R., VA)
Committee: Post Office and Civil Service (Governmental Affairs)
Status: Introduced 9 April 1987
Outlook: Provided for improvements in pay, retirement and other benefits for federal employees.

17. *Title: Reorganize State Department offices on Overseas Construction Projects
Bill No.: S 993
Sponsor: Sen Dole (R., KS)
Committee: Foreign Relations
Status: Introduced 9 April 1987
Outlook: Combines several State Department offices involved in construction into a single office.

18. *Title: Overseas Facilities Security Act of 1987
Bill No.: S 994
Sponsor: Sen Dole (R., KS)
Committee: Foreign Relations
Status: Introduced 9 April 1987
Outlook: Requires employees involved in security overseas to submit to periodic polygraph tests.

19. *Title: Comprehensive Anti-Espionage Act of 1987
Bill No.: S 996
Sponsor: Sen Dole (R., KS)
Committee: Foreign Relations
Status: Introduced 9 April 1987
Outlook: Would enhance security at US missions abroad and increase penalties for espionage.

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